

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-15 (Canceled)

16. (New): Dressing aid for putting on an article of clothing having at least one opening,
the dressing aid comprising a mounting portion for at least partially slipping on the article of clothing and
an expanding mechanism for expanding the mounting portion, thereby widening the opening of the mounted article of clothing, characterized in that
the dressing aid comprises locking means which prevent the contraction of the mounting portion while the article of clothing is mounted.

17. (New): Dressing aid according to claim 16, wherein the expanding mechanism comprises a connecting member and two legs that are hinged to the connecting member.

18. (New): Dressing aid according to claim 16, wherein the mounting portion comprises bows that are preferably essentially U-shaped.

19. (New): Dressing aid according to claim 17, wherein the legs are each provided with a bow which is preferably removable.

20. (New): Dressing aid according to claim 16, wherein the mounting portion comprises an intermediate portion comprising two bows thereby allowing to mount particularly an article of clothing having two openings to the mounting portion, the bows preferably being U-shaped and more preferably removable.

21. (New): Dressing aid according to claim 16, wherein the locking means comprise at least one of the following components:

- a locking element that is rotatable and lockable;
- a locking element that is displaceable and lockable;
- a ratchet; and

a clamping lock.

22. (New): Dressing aid according to claim 17, wherein the ends of the legs are rounded so that they can be moved across a surface with little resistance while putting on the article of clothing.

23. (New): Dressing aid according to claim 17, wherein the legs comprise an extensible end so that the length of the legs is adaptable to the size of the opening of the article of clothing.

24. (New): Dressing aid according to claim 16, wherein it comprises a handle connected to the expanding mechanism for holding and guiding the dressing aid, the handle having at least one, preferably all of the following features:

the handle length is adjustable;

the handle is connected to the expanding mechanism by means of a hinge; and

the handle is removably connected to the expanding mechanism by means of a fastener.

25. (New): Dressing aid according to claim 16, wherein it further comprises a catch hook allowing to clamp the article of clothing in order to pick it up from the floor before dressing, for example.

26. (New): Dressing aid according to claim 16, wherein the expanding mechanism comprises retaining means allowing an additional attachment of the mounted article of clothing.

27. (New): Dressing aid for removing an article of clothing having at least one opening, more particularly an article of hosiery, wherein

the dressing aid comprises two spread guide portions for expanding the opening so that the article of clothing that is being worn can be removed by introducing the guide portions into the opening.

28. (New): Dressing aid according to claim 27, wherein the guide portions are rigidly connected to a center portion and a recess is provided between the guide portions which can be moved toward the heel along the Achilles' tendon essentially for removing particularly an article of hosiery.

29. (New): Dressing aid according to claim 27, wherein the guide portions have an approximately mirror-symmetrical shape with an essentially circular contour.